

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC EAGR PL
SUBJ: NATIONAL 4-H SITR EXCHANGE

REF: (A) STATE 97401; (B) MEMCON WITH WARCHOL OF FEBRUARY, 1977

1. WE CONFIRM THE CONTINUED SATISFACTION OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS AND TECHNICIANS (SITR) WITH THE 4-H EXCHANGE. POLISH OFFICIALS WE HAVE SPOKEN WITH REGARD THE PROGRAM AS AN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS. MINISTER KAZIMIERZ BARCIKOWSKI IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN THIS EXCHANGE.

2. WE REALIZE THE POLISH PARTICIPANTS ARE NOT ALWAYS PREPARED FOR THE WORK THEY HAVE TO PERFORM IN THE U.S. ALSO, SOME DIFFERENCE OF OPINION MAY EXIST ON THE POLISH SIDE AS TO THE BEST QUALIFICATIONS FOR POLISH PARTICIPANTS. THE MINISTRY, FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD PROBABLY CHOOSE CANDIDATES WITH SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT BACK- GROUND, BUT IT DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE SELECTION PROCESS. PAWEL WARCHOL, THE PRESIDENT OF SITR, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTING CANDIDATES, PROFESSED DELIGHT WITH THE 4-H EXPERIENCE. AS REPORTED IN THE REF (B), HE BRUSHED ASIDE OUR EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN WITH THE OBSERVATION THAT "PHYSICAL TOIL ENNOBLES." HE THINKS THAT SPECIALISTS SHOULD "GET THEIR HANDS DIRTY" AND THAT THE PARTICIPANTS BENEFIT FROM THIS EXPERIENCE. HE TOLD US THE TWO VICE MINISTERS AND THE TWO AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY RECTORS

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WHO HAD TAKEN PART IN THE BRETHREN EXCHANGE WERE CONSIDERABLY SUPERIOR TO THEIR COLLEAGUES WHO HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN PRO- GRAMS IN THE U.S.

3. GIVEN WARCHOL'S PHILOSOPHY, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND OF THE POLISH PARTICIPANTS WILL CHANGE SIGNIFICANTLY. BOTH SITR AND THE MINISTRY ARE SATISFIED WITH THE WAY THE PROGRAM

NOW FUNCTIONS AND CLEARLY EXPECT THAT THE PARTICIPANTS WILL
EVENTUALLY OCCUPY POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY.

4. THE MINISTRY HAS BEGUN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BRIEFING
PROCESS, HOWEVER. EUGENIUSZ GAJEWSKI, DIRECTOR OF THE MINISTER'S
CABINET, TOLD US THAT, AFTER HIS BRIEFING OF THE DECEMBER PAR-
TICIPANTS, SEVEN OF THE THIRTY DROPPED OUT. NEW CANDIDATES WERE
QUICKLY RECRUITED. WE HAVE REPEATEDLY INFORMED SITR THAT WE
WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BRIEFINGS, BUT THE SOCIETY,
APPARENTLY DOES NOT WISH OUR ASSISTANCE. WE DOUBT, THEREFORE,
THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO PREVENT GRANTEES ON SUBSEQUENT PROGRAMS
FROM DEVELOPING SIMILAR DISSATISFACTIONS.
DAVIES

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